

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY LISBON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 187404

FOLLOWING REPEAT TORREMOLINOS 08 ACTION SECSTATE 19 SEPT

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TORREMOLINOS 08

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETEL, ITU, AR, MX, ET, SF, PO, IN, PINT

SUBJECT: ITU PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE, TORREMOLINOS,
SEPTEMBER 14 - OCTOBER 26, 1973.

FOR EB/TD FROM USDEL TORREMOLINOS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE REPEAT AS DESIRED.

1. FOLLOWING INFORMATION ELICITED AT LUNCHEON
SEPTEMBER 18 GIVEN BY MEXICAN DELEGATION FOR ITU
CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMEN.

2. TEDROS OF ETHIOPIA AND HERNANDEZ OF MEXICO TOLD
ME THEIR DELEGATIONS ARE RESISTING ARGENTINE EFFORTS
TO CREATE A CAUCUS OF 76 (OR 77 INCLUDING ARGENTINA)
UNDER-DEVELOPED NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES. THEY SAID THEIR
GOVERNMENTS HAD ENOUGH TROUBLES WITHOUT JOINING SUCH A
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MIXED INTEREST GROUP. ARGENTINA HAS CALLED CAUCUS

MEETING FOR SEPTEMBER 19 BUT MEXICANS AND ETHIOPIANS
MAY NOT ATTEND.

3. LATTER DELEGATIONS INDICATED THEY PREFERRED
ACTION ON REGIONAL BASIS AND WERE NOT ENTHUSIASTIC
ABOUT INVOLVEMENT WITH ASIAN OR ARAB CAUSES. IN
PARTICULAR THEY HAD NO STRONG FEELINGS ABOUT ISRAEL.

4. AS REGARDS SOUTH AFRICA AND PORTUGAL, TEDROS SAID
QUOTE AFRICAN MODERATES WANT TO MAKE THINGS AS EASY
AS POSSIBLE FOR THEIR WESTERN FRIENDS. END QUOTE
ACCORDINGLY THEY MAY NOT DEMAND EXPULSION FROM THE UNION BUT
SIMPLY EXCLUSION OF THESE COUNTRIES FROM PLENIPOTENTIARY
CONFERENCES AND VARIOUS UNION MEETINGS OR MAYBE ONLY
STRONG CONDEMNATORY RESOLUTION. AFRICANS MAY ATTEMPT
TO HAVE ARTICLE PROVIDING FOR EXPULSION OF MEMBERS
BY MAJORITY VOTE INSERTED IN FUTURE CONVENTION
OR CONSTITUTION. IN ANY EVENT, AFRICANS EXPECT TO CHALLENGE
SUCCESSFULLY PORTUGUESE CREDENTIALS TO REPRESENT
OVERSEAS TERRITORIES AT THIS MEETING.

5. WITH REFERENCE TO CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTION, INDIAN
DELEGATE BASU THOUGHT OF PROPOSING MORE PRECISE SEPARATION
OF CONVENTION FROM REGULATIONS. CONVENTION TO BE ADOPTED
AT CURRENT PLENIPOTENTIARY WOULD BE DRAFTED WITH VIEW TO
BEING PUT FORWARD FOR ADOPTION AS CONSTITUTION OR CHARTER
AT NEXT PLENIPOTENTIARY. IT WOULD THUS IN EFFECT
BE DRAFT CONSTITUTION. CHANGES PROMPTED BY EXPERIENCE
GAINED DURING INTERVAL BETWEEN PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCES
COULD, ACCORDING TO BASU PLAN, BE ADOPTED BY MAJORITY
VOTE AT NEXT PLENIPOTENTIARY. BEAM UNQUOTE RUSH

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